

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Squire's Rest

other names/site number Barret, Paul, House

2. Location

street & number 8993 Barret Road N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Barretville N/A ☐ vicinity

stat TN code TN County Shelby code 157 zip code 38053

e _____

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Squire's Rest

Name of Property

Shelby County, Tennessee

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

4

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

4

1

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation CONCRETE, BRICK

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☒ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons Significant in our past.
- ☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or Represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and Distinguishable entity who's components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, Information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for Religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** moved from its original location.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1920-1957

Significant Dates

1920

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

Barret, Paul

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Squire's Rest

Shelby County, Tennessee

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property Less than 5 acres Brunswick, Tenn 408 SE**UTM References**

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>248797</u>	<u>3917601</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description****11. Form Prepared By**

Name/title	<u>Judith Johnson (portion on architecture) and Paul A. Matthews (portion on history)</u>		
Organization	<u>Judith Johnson & Associates</u>	date	<u>February, 2007</u>
Street & number	<u>176 Windover Cove #1</u>	telephone	<u>901/324-4618</u>
City or town	<u>Memphis</u>	state	<u>TN</u> zip code <u>38111</u>

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's locationA **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name	<u>Estate of Joseph C. Matthews, Deceased; c/o Paul A. Matthews, Executor</u>		
Street & number	<u>5400 Poplar Avenue, Suite 100</u>	telephone	<u>901-683-3526</u>
City or town	<u>Memphis</u>	State	<u>TN</u> zip code <u>38119</u>

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Shelby County, TN

Narrative Description

The Barret Homestead, "Squire's Rest," is a one-story cottage facing east on a curve on Barret Road in the unincorporated community of Barretville in northeast Shelby County, Tennessee. From its construction in 1920 until December 1999, it was in use as a single-family residence for banker, merchant, planter, businessman, and political and civic leader Paul Barret and his family. It is now in the estate of Joseph C. Matthews, deceased, the Barrets' son-in-law. Built for newlyweds Paul and Sarah Dickey, the residence was the centerpiece of a working farm that included a barn, a smokehouse, a washhouse, and non-extant cook's house, poultry houses and coops. Except for historic side and rear additions and an added porte-cochere, the building retains its original appearance and continues its historical associations with the other buildings of this unincorporated area and with the area residents.

The original 1920 Craftsman Bungalow house is irregular in plan and includes a c. 1940 enclosed porch on the east facade. The brick foundation is visible on the rear half of the house. The wood-frame building is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding with a wider weatherboard siding below the window sill line. Window and door surrounds are plain milled boards with no molding. The corner boards and fascia are all of the same simple millwork. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles.

The irregular east façade has a front-gable enclosed porch that extends east from the main portion of the house. Knee brackets support the roof of the porch, and a bank of casement windows is shaded by a metal awning. A low c. 1940 brick planter conceals the foundation. Attached to the south side of the porch is a porte-cochere with plain rafter tails visible under the roof. North of the porch is the main portion of the house. This section has a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles and original paired nine-over-one double-hung sash windows. The northernmost bay of the east façade is a c. 1925 gable roof addition. A single original nine-over-one double-hung window is on the facade of this addition.

The north elevation of the house is a series of five walls located on different planes. The north elevation of the enclosed porch has a c. 1950 multi-light window. The next section extends north and has a small single light window. The middle section extends further north and has an original one-over-one double-hung window. The fourth section is a plain weatherboard-clad wall. The final and westernmost section is the north elevation of a c. 1950 rear addition. It has vertical wood siding, visible rafter ends, and a set of three c. 1950 metal frame casement windows. The brick foundation is visible on the west half of the elevation.

The west elevation shows the rear and side additions. The southernmost section is a c. 1950 addition and is brick with a shouldered brick chimney that has two firewood storage boxes with exterior access. The next section to the north is a c. 1950 enclosure of a sleeping porch and has a set of four one-over-one double-hung windows that are shaded by a metal canopy. The final feature on this elevation is the west wall of the c. 1925 gable roof addition, which has a multi-light and wood paneled door oriented toward the backyard.

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On the east end of the south elevation is a c. 1940 porte-cochere supported by plain brick piers. Under the roof of the porte-cochere is a set of multi-light casement windows and a twelve-light entry door with a security door and brick entry stairs that were added c. 1940. On either side of the entry is a pair of attached brick planters extending from the porte-cochere piers to the foundation of the house. To the west of the entry is a nine-over-nine, double-hung wood window. The next bay to the west has another original nine-over-nine double-hung window. Further west along this elevation is an original set of three double-hung windows and a paired set of original double-hung windows that are shorter than the rest of the windows. A side entry begins a c. 1950, hipped-roof rear addition with vertical siding and exposed rafter tails. Two sets of metal multi-light casement windows are located west of the entry.

The house is entered through a multi-light wood door into the enclosed porch with a pegged wood floor. The interior walls are finished in vertical wood paneling. The east wall has a bank of single-light metal frame windows. The windows on north and south walls are metal multi-light casement windows. The original entry into the living room retains a full transom, four-pane sidelights, and the single-leaf Craftsman door with eight lights and three panels.

The interior went through some renovations in 1962. These renovations added a bathroom and truncated a hallway in the center of the house. The oldest portions of the residence still retain the original tongue and groove hardwood flooring and plaster walls. All the rooms have twelve-foot ceilings. The living room and dining room walls display original crown and baseboard molding. All the original two-panel interior doors remain in place and the doorframes are topped with a decorative cornice molding.

The living room has a fireplace with a wood mantel on the south wall flanked by a pair of nine-over-nine double-hung windows. The mantel has plain pilasters and an empty frieze supporting the mantelshelf. The west wall of the living room has a door to the hallway and an opening to the dining room.

The dining room has a chair rail and an applied wallpaper mural on the west wall. A swinging door on the west wall opens into the kitchen and a door on the north wall opens into the hallway. The original hardwood floor is in place underneath carpeting. The south wall has a set of three original double-hung windows. The center window is nine-over-nine and is flanked by six-over-six double-hung sash.

The 1962 renovations sealed a doorway from the hall into the kitchen, but otherwise the kitchen is in its original configuration with the original wood kitchen cabinets and pantry. The pantry is located north of the kitchen and contains a series of wood cabinets. The north wall also has a paneled door leading to the den.

The kitchen opens into the c. 1950 den addition that was originally a back porch. It has dark wood paneled walls topped with an arched wood decoration, an acoustical tile ceiling, and carpeted floors. The south wall has an exterior multi-light wood door. Two identical sets of metal multi-light casement windows are found on the north wall and on the south wall. A red brick wall and

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fireplace comprise the west wall of the room. Below a cantilevered hardwood mantelshelf is a wood-burning fireplace flanked by a pair of inset cast-iron firewood storage boxes. Two attached wrought-iron lamps topped with glass globes flank the chimney.

The north door of the den opens into a former sleeping porch on the west end of the house that was converted into the master bedroom c. 1950. It has dark wood paneled walls, an acoustical tile ceiling, and carpeted floors. A closet runs across the entire north wall and is accessed by a series of sliding wood doors. The west wall has a set of four one-over-one double-hung windows. The original bathroom, located in the southeast corner of the bedroom, was reconfigured c. 1962 to allow access from this bedroom. The original bathroom has been updated with a tile floor and new toilet fixtures.

East of the master bedroom is bedroom #2. It has smooth plaster walls and ceilings. A fireplace with a simple wood mantel and glazed tile surround and hearth is on the east wall. The mantel has plain pilasters and an empty frieze supporting a mantelshelf. The door in the north wall of bedroom #2 opens into the c. 1925 bedroom which has plaster walls, an acoustical tile ceiling, carpeted floors, and an exterior door on the west wall. This room has a nine-over-one double-hung window in the east wall and a one-over-one window on the north wall. Located east of the c. 1925 bedroom is the c. 1925 tile bathroom that still retains its historic fixtures. It has a long vanity with a washbasin on the north wall. The bathtub is on the east wall, and two-panel wood doors are located on the west and south walls.

South of the c. 1925 bathroom is bedroom #1. It has a fireplace on the west wall with a wood mantel and tile hearth and surround. The mantel has fluted pilasters supporting a simple frieze and mantelshelf. The room has smooth plaster walls and ceiling, and wood floors covered with carpet. A door in the north wall leads to the c. 1925 bathroom and a door in the south wall leads to the hallway.

During renovations in 1962 the west end of the hall was made into a bathroom. The bathroom has its original cabinet and vanity, and original tiles that extend halfway up the walls. The upper portion of the walls and ceiling are plaster.

A 1920 wood frame barn with a standing seam metal gambrel roof, cypress wall cladding, and sliding wood doors on the front and rear is located about 100 yards behind the house. The barn has visible rafter tails and six multi-light windows on the south elevation and five windows on the north elevation. Three metal vents are located on the peak of the roof. The barn has a long center hall with pens on either side. (C)

Other historic outbuildings include a c. 1920 wood frame, rectangular plan, weatherboard-clad, two bay-by-two-bay washhouse with an asphalt shingle gable roof located in the northwest corner of the yard. The washhouse doors are wood panel with four lights and the windows have four-over-four double-hung sash. The windows and door retain their original screens. (C)

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A c. 1920 rectangular plan, two-bay smokehouse sits directly behind the main building. The smokehouse has a gable on hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. The walls are sided with weatherboard and rafter tails are visible in the eaves. The smokehouse stands on a concrete pier foundation. (C)

Also on the property is a noncontributing carport. The carport, located east of the barn, has a shed roof and is open on the east façade. The walls are covered with weatherboard. (NC)

The setting of the home remains quite rural in character. Many of the surrounding lots have residences or open fields. Squire's Rest retains a many of its original materials and has a high level of integrity.

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Statement of Significance

"Squire's Rest," The Paul Barret House, is historically significant for its association with the productive life of Paul Barret in southwest Tennessee. "Squire" was the title given to members of the Shelby County Quarterly Court (predecessor to the Shelby County Commission); Paul Barret was elected to that body continuously for 24 years (1942-1966), and by the 1950s his family referred to this residence as "Squire's Rest."

Since its construction in 1920, the working farm has been an important property in the community, serving as a home for the Barret family. Contextually it relates to the area of commerce, as Paul Barret co-founded Barretville Bank & Trust Company and served as its president for more than 35 years while living here. It was one of the largest and most successful rural banking systems in Tennessee. Secondly, it relates to the context of politics/government, as Paul Barret was also active in the political organization of Edward Hull ("Boss") Crump, was a highly influential figure in county politics, and was instrumental in the filing and the financing of the 1962 landmark U.S. Supreme Court case *Baker v. Carr*, which established the "one man, one vote" principle.

The first family members to arrive in this area were James Barret (born October 12, 1791 at Caroline County, Virginia; died December 18, 1868 at Tipton County, Tennessee) and his wife, Nancy Sanford Barret (born October 18, 1797 at Louisa County, Virginia; died May 24, 1873 at Tipton County). As a newly-married couple they traveled by flatboat from Kentucky to the town of Randolph (Tipton County) on the Mississippi River, settling in 1834 approximately three miles southeast of the Tipton County community of Portersville. There they reared six children, including Anthony Robert Barret, who was born February 19, 1827 at Burkesville, Kentucky.

Upon reaching manhood, Anthony Barret moved from Tipton County to the area around Gratitude Methodist Church, west of Arlington, in Shelby County. On August 7, 1850 in Shelby County he married Rebecca Hill, who was born October 21, 1827 at Norfolk, Virginia. In 1852 the couple settled at a site in the northern area of Shelby County that came to be known as Barretville. In 1856 he constructed at Barretville a 30-foot by 40-foot wood frame building for Barret & Witherington, a general store. Later the name changed to A. R. Barret & Sons and, in 1885, to Barretville Supply Company. In 1910, following Anthony Barret's death, it became J. H. Barret & Sons, and, after the death of Reed Barret in 1929, the "Sons" was made singular. On May 10, 1931 the store building was burned to the ground during an attempted robbery of the bank that was located in a corner of the store. The store was rebuilt later that year and still stands today. It celebrated its centennial in 1956 and continued to operate as a general store until the 1980s.

With the general store as the center of commerce, the Barret family and others built homes and farms in Barretville beginning in the nineteenth century. In the twentieth century came a bank, a gin, a cottonseed delinter plant, offices for The Barret Company (cotton merchants), a barber shop, and a beauty shop. The Barrets amassed land holdings of approximately 3,000 acres. Political prominence began in the 1880s, when Anthony's son, James Hill Barret (born July 28, 1862 at Barretville; died there June 4, 1936), was elected to the first in a succession of several public offices.

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The Barrets, including members of their extended family, tended to stay in West Tennessee and made their marks in various pursuits, including literature and journalism, cotton business, banking, politics, philanthropy, education, religion, law, and real estate development. (See Appendix I for detailed information on the extended family.)

Paul Barret

Paul Weisiger Barret was born July 21, 1899 at Barretville, Tennessee. His parents were James Hill Barret and Evangeline Burrow Barret (born February 12, 1874 at McLemoresville, Tennessee; died September 29, 1935 at Barretville).

Although Paul Barret spent his early years at Barretville, he and his family lived for several years at 751 Breedlove Avenue in Memphis, thus allowing him to attend Memphis University School. At his MUS graduation he received the gold medal for outstanding student of English. His love of governmental affairs was presaged by his authorship of an article entitled "More City Managers" in the March 30, 1917 issue of *University School Topics*, a student publication at MUS. In 1917 he entered the business world as a bookkeeper for his father. The following year he volunteered for the Army during World War I and was sent to Officer Training School; however, the Armistice was signed before he saw active duty. When he was released from the Army he took a job at the bank at Kerrville, Tennessee, about six miles from Barretville. By that time he had also been graduated from Nelson Business College in Memphis.

On August 27, 1918 he married Sarah Louisa ("Sarah" or "Sallie Lou") Dickey of Bartlett, Tennessee, daughter of James Tandy Dickey and Harriet ("Hattie") Gowen Dickey. In 1920 Paul and Sarah built their home, "Squire's Rest," the subject of this nomination, at 8993 Barret Road in Barretville.

Paul Barret established The Barret Company, dealers in cotton, and expanded his father's chain of cotton gins to six, being located at Barretville, Idaville, Kerrville, Brighton, Collierville, and Atoka, and with a cottonseed delinter plant at Barretville. He owned 3,000 acres of farmland in Shelby and Tipton counties. For many years he owned and operated J. H. Barret & Son General Store, founded in 1856 by Anthony Barret. Paul Barret, along with his father, James Hill Barret, expanded the family mercantile business to include stores at Idaville, Kerrville, Millington in Shelby County, and Mudville in Tipton County.

On April 20 and 21, 1956 area residents gathered for a gala celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of J. H. Barret & Son General Store. A lengthy article in *The Commercial Appeal* of April 15, 1956 described the festivities and outlined the history of the store. Paul Barret, grandson of the founder, was quoted as saying: "It is heartwarming to all of us to know that for 10 decades the store has provided for the needs of the community in so many ways. We are going right ahead into the second century of service confident that so long as the store stands it will continue to be the same good friend to the folks out here as for the past 100 years." ⁱ

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Although Paul Barret's commercial interests were extensive and varied, his most notable business success was as a banker, through his association with Barretville Bank & Trust Co. for 55 years. In 1920, at the age of 21, Paul Barret co-founded Barretville Bank & Trust Company. His initial title was cashier, but by 1936 he was also vice-president and the "active officer in charge."ⁱⁱ He was elected president in 1940 and remained in that office for more than 35 years. Under his leadership Barretville Bank became one of the state's largest and most successful rural banking systems, with three branches at Millington, two at Collierville, and one each at Arlington, Shelby Center, Lakeland, Raleigh, and Whitehaven. Paul Barret's banking interests also included control of Somerville Bank and Trust Company, Rossville Savings Bank, and First State Bank of Henderson.

Bank failures were a common occurrence during the Great Depression, but with strong leadership and the confidence of the community, Barretville Bank & Trust Co. weathered the storm. Nationwide during 1929, 659 banks with total deposits of \$200,000,000.00 closed their doors; in 1930, 1,352 banks with deposits of \$853,000,000.00; and in 1931, 2,294 banks with deposits of almost \$1,700,000,000.00.ⁱⁱⁱ Among the Shelby County banks that failed during this period were the Bank of Millington and Arlington Bank & Trust Co.^{iv} Since there was no deposit insurance at that time, each collapse buried the savings of depositors, many of whom had no other resources. Barretville Bank's deposits dropped from \$310,000.00 on December 31, 1929 to \$107,366.54 on December 31, 1933; however, three years later deposits were slightly ahead of the 1929 figure.^v Writing about Barretville Bank's survival during the Great Depression, Paul Barret observed: "We continued to make loans during the depression, using our credit resources in the service of the community."^{vi} He related the following incident of how an alarmist approach can hurt both bank and customer:

I recall an instance during the last depression when a customer consulted a banker about the desirability of making a small investment. The banker not only advised against the making of that particular investment but against making any investment under then existing conditions. The depositor, alarmed by this attitude, went across the street, rented a lock box, drew out her entire deposit from the bank whose official had given the advice stated, and placed all of her funds in this lock box. When later asked for a reason for so doing, the depositor said that if the bank was so concerned as to advise against the making of any investment and was afraid of everything except the bank, she did not feel secure about the safety of her own deposit.^{vii}

The overly-cautious attitude of the bank official in this story also served to highlight Barret's general view of the desirability of fostering a partnership between a bank and the community it serves. Barret noted as well the importance that common sense and an accurate assessment of the "moral risk" (by which he meant the extent to which a borrower is likely to feel a moral obligation to repay a loan) should play in the prudent extension of credit.

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Barretville Bank's growth greatly accelerated beginning in 1940, when Paul Barret was elected bank president. Between 1940 and 1942 deposits at Barretville Bank almost tripled, from \$559,928.24 on December 31, 1940 to \$1,413,717.58 on December 31, 1942.^{viii} During the next two years, deposits doubled to \$2,800,000.00;^{ix} by 1950, they were \$7,000,000.00;^x and by 1952, \$12,841,704.99.^{xi} Paul Barret remained president of Barretville Bank and completely in charge of its management until his death on May 4, 1976. The report issued just seven weeks after his death reflects deposits of \$64,311,877.21.^{xii}

The capitalization of Barretville Bank showed similar growth. When the bank was founded in 1920, total capital was \$15,000.00.^{xiii} Again, 1940 was a turning point, as the bank's capital stock was increased on three different occasions in that one year. On January 18, 1940, Barretville Bank retired \$5,000.00 of preferred stock and issued \$5,000.00 of common stock, so its outstanding capital stock was \$5,000.00 of preferred stock and \$17,000.00 of common stock;^{xiv} on September 5 of the same year, the bank's common stock was increased to \$20,000.00;^{xv} and by the end of that year, the bank had retired all preferred stock and increased its common stock from \$20,000.00 to \$60,000.00.^{xvi} By 1944 Barretville Bank's capital stock was \$120,000.00, which was greater than that of the Bank of Knoxville and only slightly less than that of Commercial & Industrial Bank of Memphis.^{xvii} On May 29, 1947 Barretville Bank increased its common stock by \$55,000.00, for a total of \$175,000.00; by comparison, the capital stock of Commerce Union Bank, one of the oldest and largest banks in Nashville, was \$1,100,000.00.^{xviii} On April 10, 1951 Barretville Bank increased its capital stock by \$175,000.00, to a total of \$350,000.00;^{xix} on February 2, 1953 Barretville Bank's capital stock was increased by another \$175,000.00, for a total of \$525,000.00, which was greater than that of Memphis Bank & Trust Company.^{xx} On February 26, 1974, Barretville Bank's authorized capital was increased to 10,000 shares of common stock at par value of \$100.00 each, for total capital stock of \$1,000,000.00.^{xxi} By June 30, 1976, Barretville Bank's total capitalization was \$6,355,047.17, comprised of \$1,000,000.00 in capital stock, \$1,000,000.00 in surplus, and \$4,355,047.17 in undivided profits.^{xxii}

The resources, or assets, of Barretville Bank & Trust Co. also increased greatly over the years. On December 31, 1933, the bank's assets were \$143,629.32.^{xxiii} Three years later, they stood at \$337,000.00.^{xxiv} From 1940 to 1942 Barretville Bank's assets nearly tripled, from \$559,928.24 to \$1,413,717.58.^{xxv} At that time the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation identified Barretville Bank as one of the largest "R.F.D. banks" in the United States (*i.e.*, rural banks, from the post office's designation of country mail service as being "rural free delivery," as the bank's address was Barretville, R.F.D. 1, Kerrville, Tennessee).^{xxvi} Of the 99 member banks of the Tennessee Bankers Association, whether federally-chartered or state-chartered, including all of the major banks in the state, by 1942, Barretville Bank was the 57th largest, based on total resources.^{xxvii} By year-end 1946, Barretville Bank's resources had grown to \$4,884,388.87.^{xxviii} On June 30, 1952 total assets were \$10,968,042.16, an increase of \$2,592,306.44 during the preceding 12 months.^{xxix} Barretville Bank's resources soared to over \$17,000,000.00 on December 31, 1959.^{xxx} By year-end 1970, the bank's resources totaled \$42,941,625.62.^{xxxi} On June 30, 1976, less than two months after Paul Barret's death, Barretville Bank's assets were \$73,003,511.95.^{xxxii}

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For additional information on the progress of Barretville Bank & Trust Co. under Paul Barret's leadership, see Appendix 2.

Paul Barret held public office continuously for over 40 years and won every elective office for which he was a candidate. His political career began in 1920, when he was appointed to the Shelby County Board of Education. He was elected its chairman, first in 1926 and thereafter at least through 1930. He was elected Circuit Court Clerk in 1930 and served until 1942, when he was elected to the Shelby County Quarterly Court. He served on the Quarterly Court until 1966. For a long period he was the senior member and acknowledged leader of that body, championing the interests of rural and suburban areas of Shelby County and promoting education, road building, and fiscal responsibility. In the 1960s he favored consolidation of Memphis City Schools and Shelby County Schools, as well as of the city and county offices charged with assessing and collecting property taxes, but was opposed to a metropolitan form of government. He also served as a delegate to several Democratic National Conventions.

From the time he could vote, Paul Barret was active in the political organization of Edward Hull ("Boss") Crump (1874-1954). Crump entered politics in 1905, winning election as a Memphis councilman. He served as city mayor from 1909-1915 and as U.S. Representative from 1931 to 1935, but his genius was in understanding human nature and organizing others into an extremely effective political organization. The Crump Organization dominated politics in Memphis and Shelby County from the 1920s into the 1960s. Even after the death of Crump in 1954, the Crump Organization continued to function, although more loosely. E.W. ("Will") Hale (1875-1959) of the Whitehaven community in southwest Shelby County had been very influential in the Crump Organization for a number of years, but he retired from his position on the Shelby County Board of Commissioners at age 80 in 1955. By the mid-1950s, Paul Barret was generally recognized to be the political leader of the county.

Although E.H. Crump's power in the Memphis area is well known, he was also the dominant political leader throughout Tennessee during the 1930s and 1940s. In 1930 Crump backed Henry Horton over L.E. Gwinn for Tennessee governor. Based upon Crump's endorsement of Horton, the Shelby County vote was 27,634 for Horton and 2,267 for Gwinn – enough for Horton to win the election. Crump's heavy hand in the gubernatorial race, combined with his success in orchestrating the election of Scott Fitzhugh as speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives, caused *The Chattanooga Times* of January 7, 1931 to declare Crump "the boss of Tennessee politics." However, some observers were not yet willing to bestow that title on Crump in view of the fact that governor-elect Horton had also enjoyed the support of the political organization of Colonel Luke Lea of Nashville. Just two years later Lea, weakened by business failures and a bank fraud conviction, was unable to carry the day for his 1932 gubernatorial candidate, Lewis Pope; instead, Hill McAlister, backed by Crump, was the winner. Thus, 1932 provides a clear demarcation in the statewide ascendancy of the Crump Organization. Historian David Lee wrote: "The election of 1932 closed an era in Tennessee politics. The state machine built by Luke Lea was shattered as E.H. Crump succeeded the colonel as boss of Tennessee. . . . For most of the next two decades he remained the most important politician in the state."^{xxxiii}

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The Crump Organization's dominance of statewide elections ended in 1948, as demonstrated by two events: the victory of Gordon Browning in the Democratic primary over the Crump-endorsed incumbent governor, Jim McCord, and the election of Estes Kefauver to the U.S. Senate over John Mitchell, Crump's candidate.

With the support of the Crump Organization, Gordon Browning had received 60,000 votes in Shelby County in the 1936 gubernatorial race. Soon thereafter, he had a falling out with Crump, who in his customarily colorful way, declared: "Gordon Browning is the kind of a man who would milk his neighbor's cow through a crack in the fence. In the art galleries of Paris there are 27 pictures of Judas Iscariot – none look alike but they all resemble Gordon Browning."^{xxxiv} A prime example of the Crump Organization's influence is that when Browning ran for re-election in 1938, this time without the Crump Organization's support, he lost Shelby County by approximately the same number of votes by which he had won just two years earlier: 60,000. In 1948, Browning won first the Democratic primary and then the general election for Tennessee governor, despite Crump's strong opposition.

The 1948 senatorial campaign featured the famous incident in which Crump analogized Kefauver to a pet raccoon "that puts its foot in an open drawer in your room, but invariably turns its head while its foot is feeling around in the drawer. The coon hopes, through its cunning by turning its head, he will deceive any onlookers as to where his foot is and what it is into."^{xxxv} Kefauver saw an opening. He began to wear a coonskin cap, saying that he was not "Mr. Crump's pet coon," and that the cap came from a "genuine Tennessee coon, whose rings were in its tail, not in its nose."^{xxxvi} Kefauver's successful 1948 revolt against Crump, "whose political organization had controlled Tennessee politics for decades, was a watershed in Tennessee politics."^{xxxvii}

From 1932 to 1948 the Crump Organization "controlled state elections" due to low voter turnout statewide and "Crump's heavy Shelby County vote."^{xxxviii} Throughout this period, Paul Barret "was a top leader in the Crump political machine,"^{xxxix} contributing significantly to the large Shelby County margins necessary for Crump's candidates to win statewide.

The May 27, 1946 issue of *Time* magazine, featuring an illustration of Boss Crump on the cover, called the Crump Organization "probably the smoothest, most efficient political mechanism in the U.S." (p. 21) and gave the Crump Organization credit for Memphis' "amazingly clean streets, dozens of parks and playgrounds, fine schools, libraries, one of the finest zoos in the U.S., a fairgrounds, an E.H. Crump Stadium, good hospitals, good health" (p. 20). Although many commentators decried Crump's domination of the political process, even critics acknowledged that "Crump's organization remained assiduously honest."^{xl}

Barret's name and that of the Stewartville voting precinct were synonymous, and for decades "Paul Barret's box" unfailingly turned out practically unanimous votes for the candidates whom he endorsed. In those days the vast majority of voters and almost all officials in Shelby County were white Democrats. Paul Barret's main political opponents were from the urban, liberal wing of the party and included Memphis mayor Edmund Orgill, Squire George Grider, and Memphis lawyer and later federal district court judge Bailey Brown. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, that

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group, egged on by the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, investigated the Stewartville polls. Brown was sent out to monitor the voting there and particularly to watch for any voter intimidation or ballot tampering by Paul Barret or his followers. Afterwards, Brown conceded that Paul Barret had greeted him warmly, that over the course of the day he had seen absolutely nothing improper, and that he had left convinced that voters at the Stewartville polls consistently supported candidates endorsed by Paul Barret largely because of their personal respect and trust for him. Writing about his efforts to enlist the support of Paul Barret for city-county consolidation in 1969, Memphis attorney Albert C. Rickey observed: "For a long time he [Paul Barret] had been recognized as one of the most influential citizens of the county, and it is pretty generally agreed among informed political observers that a word from 'Mr. Paul' in any election is all that is needed by several thousand voters in Millington, Collierville, and the northeastern part of Shelby County because of the tremendous respect and confidence with which they regard him."^{xli}

Paul Barret's political power is well documented. In a July 16, 1966 article, *The Commercial Appeal* said: "Since the death of political leader Edward Hull Crump in 1954, the leader of the rural forces on the County Court has been Squire Paul Barret, a Barretville banker with a 24-year record on the county legislative body. Although Mr. Barret is retiring from the court, political observers expect him to continue to wield strong political power from his office in Shelby County's northernmost section." Calling Barret "the wily, veteran north county politician," Null Adams, political editor of the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, wrote on September 2, 1966: "Barret is a long-timer in power politics, almost alone among old organization men in getting stronger and stronger as a politician personally, tho the organization no longer exists. He is the power at Stewartville, which once turned in 2,000 votes for a gubernatorial candidate and only two for his opponent." By 1966 he was considered "long the most powerful individual in county politics."^{xlii}

During his 40 years in public office, the issues that Paul Barret grappled with were usually local or statewide in nature; however, there was an event of transcendent national importance in which he played a supporting role: *Baker v. Carr*, the 1962 United States Supreme Court case which established the "one man, one vote" principle. In the estimation of Earl Warren, who was Chief Justice when *Baker v. Carr* was decided, it was the most significant court ruling of the momentous Warren Court years. Many legal scholars and political scholars have said that its importance cannot be overstated. It is generally included in the short list of landmark Supreme Court cases, along with *Marbury v. Madison*, the *Dred Scott* decision, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, and *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Despite a provision in the Tennessee Constitution that the Tennessee General Assembly be reapportioned every 10 years among the state's districts "according to the number of qualified voters in each," as of 1959, when *Baker v. Carr* was filed, that body had not been reapportioned since 1901. Because of major shifts in population during the ensuing years, there were huge inequalities in population among legislative districts. For example, in 1960 Moore County had one state representative for its 3,455 residents, but Shelby County, with a population of 619,722, had eight; on the basis of one representative for Moore County, Shelby County should have had 125 representatives. In that context, a group of 10 plaintiffs from underrepresented districts, including Charles W. Baker, Chairman of the Shelby County Quarterly Court, and Roy Dixon, an officer and

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director of Barretville Bank, filed *Baker v. Carr*, asking the federal judiciary to compel the Tennessee General Assembly to reapportion legislative districts as mandated by the Tennessee Constitution and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. As acknowledged leader of its dominant faction (*The Commercial Appeal* complained that the Barret faction had “a stranglehold on County Court management of local government”^{xliii}), Paul Barret was an essential actor in securing funding for the litigation from the Shelby County Quarterly Court. He was also instrumental in allowing Baker, and in enlisting Dixon (Barret’s employee), to serve as plaintiffs. Paul Barret supported the lawsuit because he was convinced that additional representation for Shelby County in Nashville would increase the flow of state funds to the county. In his heyday, Boss Crump had made sure that Shelby County received its rightful share of state revenue; however, in the aftermath of Crump’s death in 1952, Shelby County was being shortchanged just as other populous counties in the state had been for decades. On March 26, 1962 the United States Supreme Court rendered its decision in favor of the plaintiffs, not only ruling that state senate and state representative districts in Tennessee must be of approximately equal population, but using sweeping language that foreshadowed broad application of the “one man, one vote” principle, as espoused by the Warren Court, to representative bodies throughout the nation.

Paul Barret and Charles Baker were part of the suburban and rural bloc on the Shelby County Quarterly Court, which at that time was structured, pursuant to state law, so that each municipality in the county had one squire, or representative, regardless of disparities in population. In addition, there were three squires from civil districts, including Paul Barret from the First Civil District. This approach had the effect of giving small towns such as Arlington (1960 population: 651) the same voice on the Quarterly Court as Memphis (1960 population: 491,710). Ironically, the ruling in *Baker v. Carr* was cited as controlling authority in subsequent court rulings that disallowed the sort of geography-based representation then in place for the Shelby County Quarterly Court. Moreover, another difference between the structure of the Tennessee General Assembly and the structure of the Quarterly Court was that the former was in clear violation of the Tennessee Constitution but the latter conformed to state law. These sorts of distinctions, though viewed by Barret, Baker, and others as determinative, were cast aside by *Baker v. Carr* and its progeny in rulings that reshaped not only Constitutional law, but also the political ground rules for every stratum of American government.

The Paul W. Barret Memorial Parkway is the northern segment of Tennessee Highway 385, a controlled-access road from Millington to Collierville. Its first segment, which connected U.S. Highway 51 to Singleton Parkway and the Naval Air Station at Millington, was dedicated in a ceremony attended by his children, grandchildren, Shelby County Mayor William N. Morris, Arlington Mayor Sam Wilson, Millington Mayor Tom Hall, state officials, and others on April 8, 1983. In 1999 construction began to extend the roadway all the way from Millington to Collierville. At that time, Tennessee Senate Joint Resolution No. 40 was adopted by the Tennessee General Assembly and signed by Governor Don Sundquist. The resolution officially names the roadway in his honor. The full resolution text is provided in Appendix 3.

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Paul Barret was a veteran of World War I and a 32nd degree Mason (Scottish Rite). He was also an elder of First Presbyterian Church of Rosemark.

Paul and Sarah Dickey Barret were married for 57 years when he died on May 4, 1976. His body lay in state at Squire's Rest on May 5 and 6, 1976, prior to his funeral at First Presbyterian Church of Rosemark on the afternoon of the sixth. Sarah Dickey Barret died on July 3, 1978. Both are interred at Pleasant Union Cemetery at Mudville, Tennessee. By unanimous resolution passed on May 17, 1976, the Shelby County Quarterly Court observed that he "was ever in the forefront of those seeking to develop his community to its highest potential."^{xliv}

Paul Barret's son, Paul Barret Jr. lived at Squire's Rest his entire life. Born October 9, 1923 he attended the public schools of Shelby County. In 1946 he received a bachelor's degree from Rhodes College (then Southwestern-at-Memphis), where he was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa leadership fraternity and Sigma Alpha Epsilon social fraternity. Upon graduation, he began work at The Barret Company, which bought and sold cotton and owned and operated cotton gins.

When his father died in 1976, Paul Barret, Jr. became president of Barretville Bank & Trust Company. During his tenure as president, total assets of the bank grew from \$73 million to \$251 million, and the bank's total capital grew from \$6 million to \$60 million. In October 1989, *Money* magazine named it "one of the safest banks in America." On July 14, 1997, less than three months before he suffered a debilitating stroke, he shot and wounded two bank robbers at Barretville. He was quoted in the newspaper as saying in his customarily direct manner: "I don't want to hurt anyone, but I don't want my bank robbed either."^{xlv}

Paul Barret, Jr. died on December 18, 1999 at Memphis and is buried at Pleasant Union Cemetery at Mudville. Following his death, Barret Bancorp, the holding company for Barretville Bank & Trust Company and Somerville Bank & Trust Company, was sold to Trustmark Corporation of Jackson, Mississippi. This sale produced well over \$60 million for Paul Barret, Jr.'s estate. All told, his estate was valued at \$70 million, all of which was left to various charities in Shelby County. Over \$35 million went to Rhodes College to build the Barret Library, which replaced the library given to the college in 1950 by Paul W. Barret, Jr.'s great uncle, Aaron Knox Burrow. The Barret gift to Rhodes is thus far the largest capital gift to a liberal arts college in the South. Built with 7,000 pieces of limestone and 2,210 tons of fieldstone, the library occupies 136,000 square feet and contains 275,000 books, as well as other media. The Barret School of Banking was established at Christian Brothers University with a gift of \$8 million. Other major beneficiaries of his estate include the American Red Cross, Youth Villages, the Salvation Army, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the University of Memphis, Barret's Chapel Elementary School, Bolton High School, Tipton-Rosemark Academy, First Presbyterian Church of Rosemark, and Pleasant Union Cemetery.

Other Information on Squire's Rest

Paul Weisiger Barret and Sarah Dickey Barret built Squire's Rest directly across from the home of his parents, James Hill Barret and Evangeline Burrow Barret. At Squire's Rest, with the help of

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George Gales, Jr., her devoted employee for over 30 years, Sarah Barret grew dahlias, roses, gladioli, gardenias, camellias, and other flowers, raised ring-necked brown pheasants, golden pheasants, pea fowl, guineas, turkeys, chickens, and fostered habitat for bobwhite quail, whose call she relished. All of the various types of domesticated birds were served at the Barret table except for the golden pheasants, whose brilliant, iridescent colors made them too beautiful to eat.

For many years Squire's Rest featured a rose garden, other flower gardens, a vegetable garden, an apple and peach orchard, houses and pens for poultry, a barn and pasture for horses, a hog lot, a smokehouse, a cook's house, a wash house, a summer house, and a tennis court. While the Barret grandsons were young, there were goats and a pony. Sarah Barret oversaw the farm operations and the upkeep of the home, the outbuildings, and grounds, while her husband ran the bank and other businesses.

Paul and Sarah Barret's daughter, Rebecca Barret Matthews, was born June 23, 1920 at Squire's Rest. She graduated from Bolton High School and received an associate of arts degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri in 1940 and a bachelor's degree from Southwestern-at-Memphis in 1942. On August 27, 1946, in the garden on the side lawn at Squire's Rest, she married Joseph Curtis Matthews. Rebecca Barret Matthews was actively involved in her family's banking business for several decades and contributed significantly to the success of the office at Millington, which was Barretville Bank and Trust Company's largest branch.

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Boundary Description and Boundary Justification

The nominated boundary is the portion of parcel D0108 00409 that directly surrounds the house and associated domestic outbuildings. See attached tax map.



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Squire's Rest
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Photographs

Photographs by: Judith Johnson

Date: August, 2006

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

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| 1 of 16 | East façade and north elevation, photographer facing southwest. |
| 2 of 16 | South and west elevations, photographer facing northeast. |
| 3 of 16 | North and west elevations, photographer facing southeast. |
| 4 of 16 | Detail-porte-cochere and entrance, photographer facing north. |
| 5 of 16 | Interior-enclosed front porch, photographer facing south. |
| 6 of 16 | Interior-dining room, photographer facing west. |
| 7 of 16 | Interior-kitchen, photographer facing southwest. |
| 8 of 16 | Interior-den, photographer facing west. |
| 9 of 16 | Interior-master bedroom, photographer facing northwest. |
| 10 of 16 | Interior-bedroom #2, photographer facing east. |
| 11 of 16 | Interior-bedroom # 1, photographer facing west. |
| 12 of 16 | Interior-bathroom #1, photographer facing west. |
| 13 of 16 | Interior-bedroom #3, photographer facing northwest. |
| 14 of 16 | Interior-bathroom #3, photographer facing east. |
| 15 of 16 | Barn, photographer facing southwest. |
| 16 of 16 | Washhouse, photographer facing northeast. |

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The Barrets, including members of their extended family, tended to stay in West Tennessee and made their marks in various pursuits, including those set forth below. Unless otherwise noted, these individuals were cousins, or the spouses of cousins, of Paul Barret.

- Literature and Journalism – Frances Boyd Calhoun (1867-1909) of Covington was the author of *Miss Minerva and William Green Hill* (Chicago: Reilly & Britton Co., 1909). John Barron Deaderick (1886-1978) of Memphis wrote military histories, including *Strategy in the Civil War* (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: The Military Service Publishing Company, 1946) and *Campaigns and Battles of America, 1775-1865: Fort Duquesne to Appomattox* (Boston: Christopher Publishing, 1959). David Bell Macgowan (1870 -1960), a Memphis native, was editor-in-chief of the *Knoxville (Tennessee) Sentinel* from 1908-1914.
- Cotton Business – Aaron Knox Burrow (1871-1968) of Memphis, Paul Barret's uncle, owned and operated the largest cotton linters operation in the United States. Cotton linters took on strategic importance as a component in many explosives during World War I. Burrow, working with E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Company, was in charge of all purchases of linters for the American and French governments during the war.
- Banking – See the discussion herein on Paul Barret, Paul Barret, Jr. (Paul Barret's son), and Rebecca Barret Matthews (Paul Barret's daughter). Also, Walter Anthony Barret, Jr. (1909-1985), who was reared at Barretville and later resided at Memphis, was senior vice-president of Union Planters National Bank (now Regions Bank) and a bank lobbyist. Aaron Knox Burrow was a director of First National Bank of Memphis (now First Tennessee Bank, N.A.) from 1923 to 1955.
- Politics – James Hill Barret (1862-1936) of Barretville, Paul Barret's father, held public office continuously for 50 years and Paul Barret did so continuously for 40 years. Elizabeth Polk Burrow (1839-1909), Paul Barret's grandmother, was of the same family as President James K. Polk.
- Philanthropy – Aaron Knox Burrow donated over \$1,000,000 to Southwestern-at-Memphis, which later became Rhodes College, for Burrow Library in 1950, and Paul Barret, Jr. donated \$70,000,000 to various charities in Shelby County in 2000.
- Education – The Reverend Reuben Burrow, D.D. (1798-1868), Paul Barret's great-grandfather and a resident of Carroll County and later of Shelby County, was the first principal of Bethel Seminary at McLemoresville, Tennessee, which relocated to McKenzie, Tennessee and became Bethel College, one of West Tennessee's first institutions of higher learning; from 1852 to 1861 he was Professor of Systematic Theology there. Allen Booker Barret (1879-1951), born at Covington, was the founder and first president of Childress

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Classical Institute, which became Abilene (Texas) Christian University; subsequently he returned to West Tennessee, where he served as pastor for several Church of Christ congregations and was on the faculty at Freed-Hardeman College. James Hill Barret was instrumental in establishing Barret's Chapel School, built in 1925, the first high school for African Americans in northern Shelby County.

- Religion – Dr. Reuben Burrow was an early, pre-eminent Cumberland Presbyterian theologian and preacher. Paul Barret's grandfather, the Reverend Albert Gibson Burrow (1824-1909), at various times a resident of Carroll, Gibson, and Shelby counties, was a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, author of several published religious works, and a chaplain in the Confederate Army with General Nathan Bedford Forrest during the last two years of the Civil War. The Reverend William Gowen (1813-1883), Paul Barret's wife's grandfather, pastored various Baptist churches in Fayette and Shelby counties from the 1840s through the 1870s.
- Law – Randolph Alexander Ashley (1927–) of Dyersburg was Attorney General of Tennessee from 1974 to 1976.
- Real Estate Development – James Hill Barret, who amassed large tracts of land in Shelby and Tipton counties, founded and led the Memphis real estate brokerage firm of James H. Barret & Co. During the 1960s Joseph Curtis Matthews (1922-2005), Paul Barret's son-in-law, transformed a Millington, Tennessee cotton field into the town's largest and most complete shopping center and was co-owner of the company that developed Millington's first upscale subdivision.

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Shelby County, TNAPPENDIX 2:**PROGRESS OF BARRETVILLE BANK & TRUST CO.
UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PAUL W. BARRET (1899-1976)****by Paul A. Matthews**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
6/17/1920	The State of Tennessee registers a charter of incorporation for Barretville Bank & Trust Company submitted by E. D. Parr, J.M. Dickson, Charles W. Thompson, A.C. Williams, A.H. Murray, J.R. Gragg, and R. B. McCalla. The charter is dated May 14, 1920. (Tennessee Secretary of State, Charters of Incorporation, Record Group 42, Book U-25, p. 261) C. C. Castles is president, James Hill Barret is vice-president, and Paul W. Barret (age 21) is cashier. Among the initial shareholders are the three officers plus J.M. Dickson, A.C. Williams, Charles W. Thompson, J.H. McFerrin, E.B. Parr, J.T. Lucado, and Bruce Person, all of whom also serve as the initial directors. (Statement of the Condition of Barretville Bank & Trust Co., April 29, 1921) Capitalization is \$15,000.00. (Bulletin 14) Sometimes reference is made to Barretville Bank having been in existence since 1908, rather than since 1920. The reason for the earlier date is that The Peoples Bank of Collierville, which was acquired by Barretville Bank in 1943, was chartered in 1908. (Bulletin 62)
1926-1927	Barretville Bank's capital stock is doubled to \$30,000.00. Barretville Bank acquires Rosemark Bank & Trust Company, and Rosemark Bank's former office becomes a branch of Barretville Bank. (Bulletin 27) The incorporators of Rosemark Bank & Trust Company were E.A. Thompson, W.P. McQuiston, R.C. McCalla, E.M. Moore, and Frank S. Bragg, Jr.; the charter, dated February 12, 1912, was registered by the Tennessee Secretary of State on February 15, 1912. (Tennessee Secretary of State, Charters of Incorporation, Record Group 300, Book 3, p. 294)
10/29/1929	The Stock Market Crash on this date leads to the Great Depression, which in turn causes many bank failures. Nationwide during 1929, 659 banks with total deposits of \$200,000,000.00 close their doors; in 1930, 1,352 banks with total deposits of \$853,000,000.00; and in 1931, 2,294 banks with deposits of almost \$1,700,000,000.00. (John M. Blum, <i>et al.</i> , <i>The National Experience</i> , 2d ed. (New York: Harcourt Brace & World, Inc., 1968), pp. 663-64) Among the Shelby County banks that fail during this period are the Bank of Millington and Arlington Bank & Trust Company. Since there is no deposit insurance, each collapse buries the savings of depositors, many of whom have no other resources. With strong leadership and the confidence of the community, Barretville Bank weathers the storm, even though its main office is totally destroyed by fire in 1931, the worst year

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for bank failures. By 1936, Barretville Bank's deposits will be slightly greater than before the Stock Market Crash.

- 12/31/1929 Deposits are in excess of \$310,000.00. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1930, p. 46)
- 2/1931 Barretville Bank pays a 12% dividend. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1931, p. 30)
- 5/10/1931 Five men rob the main office of Barretville Bank & Trust Co., using an acetylene blowtorch to cut into the vault. It is uncertain whether the blowtorch accidentally sets the building afire or whether the fire is intentionally set to hide the robbery and the killing of James McFerrin, a 23-year-old night watchman. The ensuing robbery-arson-murder trial lasts 47 days, from January 11 through February 27, 1932, and at the time is the longest and most expensive criminal trial in Shelby County history. The robbers had first gone to Paul Barret's home, presumably intending to bring him to the bank and force him to open the vault, but he was not there and the robbers left without harming his wife, Sarah Dickey Barret, or the Barrets' two young children.
- 10/1931 Barretville Bank is now housed in a new brick building at 9043 Barret Road in Barretville. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1932, p. 36) The structure that had contained both the bank and J.H. Barret & Son General Store was destroyed in the fire described in the preceding entry. Except for a remodeling and minor expansion in 1958-59 (*Tennessee Banker*, January 1960, p. 33), the bank's main office will remain intact and at that location until January 2, 1997, when a new headquarters opens at 9015 Barret Road.
- 6/15/1932 The Rosemark Branch of Barretville Bank & Trust Co., which is approximately one mile from the main office, is closed for good. (Bulletin 37) For five months during 1931, while the headquarters was being re-built, the Rosemark Branch served as the only location of Barretville Bank.
- 12/31/1933 Deposits at Barretville Bank are \$107,366.54. Loans and "discounts" are \$65,632.00; resources at last call are \$143,629.32. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1934, p. 28)
- 1934 Rebecca Barret (later Matthews), 13-year-old daughter of Paul and Sarah Dickey Barret, begins sorting checks at Barretville Bank after school and on Saturdays. She will continue to work at the bank on a part-time basis during high school and college. In 1955 she will commence her 38-year, full-time career at the bank's branch in Millington.
- 12/31/1936 Resources at last call are \$337,000.00. Paul Barret, whose title is vice- president and cashier, is "the active officer in charge." The bank pays a 20% dividend and

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places an even greater amount in an undivided profits account. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1937, p. 30)

- 1/18/1940 Barretville Bank retires \$5,000.00 of preferred shares and issues \$5,000.00 of common shares, so its outstanding capital stock is now \$5,000.00 of preferred shares and \$17,000.00 of common shares. (Bulletin 53)
- 9/5/1940 Barretville Bank increases its common stock to \$20,000.00; preferred stock remains at \$5,000.00. (Bulletin 54) Barretville Bank opens a branch under the name Peoples State Bank on Highway 51 North in Millington, near the newly-built Chickasaw Ordnance Plant. (*Id.*; *Tennessee Banker*, September 1940, p. 24) The town's previous bank, The Bank of Millington, closed after the stock market crash of 1929. (Faye Ellis Osteen, *Millington: The First Hundred Years* (Southaven, Mississippi: The King's Press, 2002), p. 77) All future branches of Barretville Bank will be called either Peoples State Bank or Peoples Bank.
- 12/1940 Barretville Bank retires all preferred stock and increases its common stock from \$20,000.00 to \$60,000.00. (Bulletin 57) Paul Barret, who served as cashier for 19 years and as executive vice-president for one year, is elected president, succeeding C.C. Castles, who desires to be relieved of that office due to illness. H. Vance Griffin is chairman of the board; Walter A. Barret, Jr., executive vice-president; C.W. Thompson, vice-president; Ollie Mae (Mrs. Robert) McClanahan, cashier; G. K. Spencer, R. B. McDaniel, Mrs. Vivian Johnson, and Edwin Goldsby, assistant cashiers. (*Tennessee Banker*, March 1941, p. 24) Total deposits exceed \$500,000.00. (*Id.*)
- 12/31/1942 Resources of Barretville Bank have almost tripled in two years, from \$559,928.24 on December 31, 1940 to \$1,413,717.58 on December 31, 1942. Deposits are \$1,322,427.52, an increase of about \$700,000.00 over the course of the year. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation identifies Barretville Bank as one of the largest "R.F.D. banks" in the United States, as the bank's headquarters is located at Barretville, R.F.D. 1, Kerrville, Tennessee. (*The Commercial Appeal*, January 14, 1943) Of the 99 member banks of the Tennessee Bankers Association, whether federally-chartered or state-chartered, including all of the major banks in the state, Barretville Bank is now the 57th largest, based on total resources. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1943, pp. 16-17)
- 6/30/1943 Resources of Barretville Bank grew by \$461,000.00 during the past 12 months. (*Tennessee Banker*, August 1943, p. 31)
- 9/1943 The Peoples Bank of Collierville (founded 1908) is acquired by and becomes a branch of Barretville Bank. (Bulletin 62)
- 9/11/1944 Barretville Bank doubles its common stock from \$60,000.00 to

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\$120,000.00. By 1944, Barretville Bank's capital is greater than that of the Bank of Knoxville and only slightly less than that of Commercial & Industrial Bank of Memphis. (Bulletin 62)

11/1944 Deposits at Barretville Bank are \$2,800,000.00. (*Tennessee Banker*, November 1944, p. 32)

12/31/1945 Barretville Bank's total resources are \$4,606,008.29. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1946, p. 22)

12/31/1946 Barretville Bank has resources of \$4,884,388.87. At the annual directors' meeting an 8% dividend is paid, employees are given a bonus, and the surplus account is increased to \$80,000.00. Capital, surplus, and undivided profits total \$205,000.00. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1947, p. 34)

5/29/1947 Barretville Bank increases its common stock by \$55,000.00, for a total of \$175,000.00. (Bulletin 67) By comparison, the capital of Commerce Union Bank, one of the oldest and largest banks in Nashville, is \$1,110,000.00. (*Id.*)

9/5/1947 Barretville Bank opens a branch, known as Peoples Bank, at Raleigh. (Bulletin 68)

1/13/1948 At the shareholders' meeting the following 13 directors are elected: Paul Barret, Paul Barret, Jr., and Walter A. Barret, Jr., all of Barretville; C.W. Bond of Arlington; G.G. Crenshaw of Millington; Roy E. Dixon of Bartlett; H. Vance Griffin of Brunswick; M.K. Mann and Mark V. Kirk, both of Collierville; W.P. McQuiston and Faires McCormick, both of Atoka; Charles W. Thompson of Rosemark; and J.K. Hinton. The bank has resources of over \$5,500,000.00 and total capital accounts in excess of \$250,000.00. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1948, p. 36)

11/11/1948 Deposits at the Collierville Branch of Barretville Bank are \$2,250,000.00, compared to just \$397,408.39 ten years earlier, prior to acquisition by Barretville Bank. (*The Collierville Herald*, November 11, 1948, p. 1)

12/31/1948 Barretville Bank's deposits are \$6,381,373.04; total capital accounts are \$277,511.17, comprised of capital stock of \$175,000.00, surplus of \$100,000.00, and undivided profits of \$2,511.17. Total resources (or assets) are \$6,682,139.43 (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1948)

6/30/1950 Barretville Bank is paying 1.5% interest on savings deposits and 2% on time certificates. (Condensed Statement, June 30, 1950)

12/14/1950 At the year-end directors' meeting, a 10% dividend is declared and the bank's surplus account is increased by \$25,000.00 to \$150,000.00. One month's salary is given to employees as a Christmas bonus. Deposits during 1950 increased 11%, now

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totaling more than \$7,000,000.00. Paul Barret observes: "This successful operation was accomplished in spite of some unfavorable aspects in agriculture resulting from insect infestation." (*Tennessee Banker*, January 1951, p. 44)

6/30/1951 Resources of Barretville Bank show an increase of \$1,200,000.00 from June 30, 1950, rising from \$6,778,022.43 to \$7,687,489.72. (*Tennessee Banker*, October 1951, p. 32)

9/22/1951 Barretville Bank opens a branch on South Highway 51 in Whitehaven, with opening day deposits of \$823.00. H. Leo Brown is branch manager. (*Memphis Press-Scimitar*, September 18, 1951)

12/31/1951 During 1951 the bank's resources grow by more than \$2,000,000.00, capital stock is increased from \$175,000.00 to \$350,000.00, and surplus is increased from \$150,000.00 to \$190,000.00. An 8% dividend is declared, employees are given a bonus of one month's salary, a bonus is paid to "committeemen serving the bank," and Christmas gifts are presented to directors. (*Tennessee Banker*, January 1952, p. 44 and February 1952, p. 28)

6/30/1952 Total assets are \$10,968,042.16, an increase of \$2,592,306.44 during the past 12 months. (*Tennessee Banker*, August 1952, p. 28)

10/1952 As a public service, Barretville Bank, in conjunction with its affiliate, Somerville Bank & Trust Co., sponsors advertisements as part of the "Keep Tennessee Green" program. (*Tennessee Banker*, October 1952, p. 29)

12/31/1952 Resources of Barretville Bank increase by nearly \$3,000,000.00 from a year earlier, now totaling more than \$13,000,000.00. Deposits are \$12,841,704.99. (*Tennessee Banker*, March 1953, p. 24)

2/2/1953 Barretville Bank increases its common shares by another \$175,000.00, for total capital stock of \$525,000.00. (Bulletin 79) Barretville Bank's capital stock is now greater than Commercial & Industrial Bank of Memphis and Memphis Bank & Trust Company. (Bulletin 80)

6/30/1953 Resources of Barretville Bank increase by \$2,660,827.98 over 12 months. Total assets are \$13,628,870.14. (*Tennessee Banker*, September 1953, p. 28)

9/1953 In a lengthy article in this month's *Tennessee Banker* entitled "Competition between Banks and Savings and Loan Associations," Paul Barret discusses various differences that he says are not generally understood by the public. Among his points are: (1) persons with accounts at banks are depositors who earn a set amount of interest and may withdraw their funds at any time, whereas persons with accounts at savings and loan associations are investors who are entitled to submit

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withdrawal applications that will be paid in the order submitted, but this process may entail substantial delay, and as long as the S&L is paying its members on a "take your turn basis," the S&L is not in default so as to trigger federal deposit insurance; (2) savings and loan members earn dividends, which are not assured, versus banks, which pay interest; (3) banks must maintain a large portion of their funds in cash or low interest-bearing government securities in order to meet depositors' withdrawals upon demand, but S&Ls invest their funds largely in long-term real estate mortgages; (4) banks render services to individuals and the community that are not available from S&Ls, including checking accounts, business loans, personal loans, the financing of community enterprises, and business advice to customers "that can only be given by those having contact with all phases of business and not merely one particular kind of investment." Barret goes on to note that existing legislation and regulations discriminate against banks and favor savings and loan associations and that some advertising by S&Ls is misleading. He advocates that the Tennessee Bankers Association initiate a campaign to inform the public of "the differences between deposits in banks and share investments in savings and loan associations and pointing out the superiority of banks as savings institutions."

- 11/21/1953 The branch of Barretville Bank at Frayser opens. (Bulletin 80)
- 1/1954 When asked about economic prospects for southwest Tennessee during 1954, Paul Barret responds by saying that the federal government's "delay in fixing the cotton acreage is causing considerable concern among producers of cotton." He went on to observe: "A deep cut in the acreage will have an adverse effect on all lines of business in this territory." (*Tennessee Banker*, January 1954, p. 12)
- 6/1954 Paul Barret, president of Barretville Bank & Trust Company, is re-elected president of Somerville Bank & Trust Company. (*Tennessee Banker*, August 1954, p. 30)
- 10/1954 As tangible evidence "of its interest in the Wolf River Watershed," Barretville Bank joins with Somerville Bank to sponsor public service advertisements on conservation topics in *The Collierville Herald*. (*Tennessee Banker*, October 1954, p. 18)
- 12/31/1954 Barretville Bank pays an 8% dividend to its customers for 1954, a bonus to each branch manager equal to three months' salary, and a bonus to other employees of one and one-half months' salary. The bank increases its surplus account by \$50,000.00, to a total of \$275,000.00. Resources grew by \$2,500,000.00 during the previous 12 months. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1955, p. 32)
- 1955 Rebecca Barret Matthews, who worked part-time at Barretville Bank from the time she was a young teenager, commences full-time employment at Peoples State Bank in Millington. She will soon become vice-president, contributing greatly over the course of her 38-year career to the success of that branch, which is and will remain Barretville Bank's largest.

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6/30/1955 During the past 12 months, Barretville Bank's deposits grew by \$1,750,000.00, the surplus account increased by \$100,000.00, and "capital structure" showed a \$70,000.00 gain. (*Tennessee Banker*, August 1955, p. 24)

1/1956 In an article in the January 1956 issue of *Tennessee Banker* about the outlook for business in the coming year, Paul Barret writes:

On the surface, the local outlook for business in 1956 is exceedingly good. However, there are many factors which should give concern to the prudent businessman and to banks in this area.

While not so largely dependent on agriculture as formerly, these communities are still materially affected by agricultural conditions. Prices, yields, and weather for 1956 are largely matters of speculation, but the most disturbing factor is the extent of installment buying. Televisions, furniture, machinery, equipment, and automobiles are sold on credit terms that involve material risks to the creditor. For instance, an automobile may be purchased for a small down payment with the balance due in installments running over a period of three years. Except where the purchaser is solvent, I do not think a bank should handle automobile purchases unless there is a substantial cash payment and the installments limited to a period of eighteen months or two years. This is especially true where the seller is not a solvent individual but a corporation with small capital.

In the area in which our banks operate, as in many others, we are in a period of transition. The small operator, whether owner or tenant, is being crowded out by the large operator with ample means to purchase machinery and equipment necessary to profitable production in any line. This is a factor that should not be overlooked in considering applications for credit. After all, it gets back to the question of who you are doing business with, the value of the collateral he offers for a loan, and the moral risk of the applicant. It is well to avoid extremes[,] and if this is done and reasonable caution observed, the banks may expect to do a profitable business in 1956.

1/2/1957 Barretville Bank sells its branches at Raleigh and Frayser and its two branches at Whitehaven to Union Planters National Bank. (Bulletin 87) Barretville Bank has, and will continue to have, correspondent relations with Union Planters. As a result, Union Planters avoids building branches in communities primarily served by Barretville Bank.

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- 1/15/1957 Barretville Bank's deposits are \$11,888,226.44. Its surplus and undivided profits are \$815,199.98, and its total assets, \$13,619,550.97. (Condensed Statement, January 15, 1957)
- 12/31/1958 Deposits at Barretville Bank are \$12,981,518.56; capital stock is \$525,000.00, surplus is \$680,000.00, and undivided profits are \$153,933.30, for total capital assets of \$1,358,933.30. Assets total \$14,626,085.64. Referring to itself as "the bank of friendly service," Barretville Bank observes in its Condensed Statement of Condition that it is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Tennessee Bankers Association, and the American Bankers Association and that checks are "payable at par through the Federal Reserve System." (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1958)
- 12/17/1959 Barretville Bank's resources increased by more than \$3,000,000.00 during the past 12 months. The directors declare an 8% dividend of \$42,000.00 and the surplus account grows from \$680,000.00 to \$700,000.00. Of special interest to the directors is seeing the recently completed expansion and remodeling of the bank's headquarters at Barretville, including the addition of "an imposing façade of brick, stone, and stucco," and receiving a report on the modernization of the branches at Millington and Collierville. (*Tennessee Banker*, January 1960, p. 33) The main office and those two branches are now "modern in every detail." (*Id.*) Combined resources of Barretville Bank and its affiliates, Somerville Bank & Trust Co., First State Bank of Henderson, Tennessee, and Rossville Savings Bank, exceed \$26,000,000.00 (*Id.*)
- 3/14/1960 Barretville Bank opens a branch at The Plaza Shopping Center in Millington at a cost of \$40,000.00. (Bulletin 92 and *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, March 10, 1960)
- 4/1/1961 Barretville Bank opens the Shelby Center Branch at 6767 Summer Avenue, just south of the intersection with U.S. Highway 64. (Bulletin 95) Investment in the building and land is \$150,000.00. Roy E. Dixon is branch manager. (*Memphis Press-Scimitar*, undated clipping) Considered "one of Shelby County's most beautiful bank branches," the Shelby Center facility boasts walnut paneling, tall, narrow windows, and curved walls in the lobby. (*Tennessee Banker*, May 1961, p. 23) It also has a drive-through window, a night depository, and its own loan and bookkeeping departments. (*Tennessee Banker*, January 1961, p. 14)
- 12/1961 This month the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which controls how much interest member banks may pay to depositors, issues a new regulation allowing banks to pay up to 3.5% on funds on deposit for less than a year and up to 4% on funds on deposit for a year or more. A December 18, 1961 article in the *Memphis Press-Scimitar* reports that although many banks are still trying to figure out how to do the bookkeeping necessary to keep track of which money has been on deposit for how long, Barretville Bank is the first bank in the Memphis area to announce that it

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will pay the maximum rates beginning with the effective date of the new regulation, namely January 1, 1962.

- 3/1962 Eight thousand copies of a leaflet criticizing proposals to adopt a metropolitan form of government for Memphis and Shelby County are included with statements mailed to customers of Barretville Bank. President Paul Barret defends the piece as a "question-and-answer" leaflet, adding that "the people ought to be informed on all sides." He was on record as favoring consolidation of only certain city and county operations, including schools. (*Memphis Press-Scimitar*, March 6, 1962, p. 12)
- 12/19/1962 At Barretville Bank's annual directors' meeting, President Paul Barret reports that during the past 12 months the bank's resources increased by \$2,000,000.00. The directors vote an 8% dividend of \$42,000.00, bonuses totaling more than \$30,000.00 to officers and employees, and an increase in the surplus account from \$800,000.00 to \$900,000.00. Combined resources of Barretville Bank and its affiliates are more than \$35,000,000.00. (*Tennessee Banker*, February 1963, p. 31)
- 12/31/1964 Barretville Bank's deposits are \$23,216,963.42. Capital stock is \$525,000.00, surplus is \$925,000.00, and undivided profits are \$362,980.63, for total capital accounts of \$1,812,980.63. Total assets are \$25,855,674.51. (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1964)
- 7/1965 The Arlington Branch of Barretville Bank opens at 11915 Highway 70. H.B. Osborn is manager of the new facility. (*Memphis Press-Scimitar*, June 10, 1966) It is Barretville Bank's seventh branch and the first time a bank has been located at Arlington since 1930, when Arlington Bank & Trust Co. (founded 1905) ceased operations. (*Tennessee Banker*, July 1965, p. 13; Rachel Herring Kennon Burrow, *Arlington: A Short Historical Writing of the Town* (Memphis: E. H. Clarke & Brother, 1962), p. 15)
- 7/30/1969 Two bandits hold-up the Shelby Center Branch wearing fake mustaches, brandishing pistols, and setting off smoke bombs. They get away with \$30,000.00. In planning the robbery, they apparently found inspiration from recent small-screen and big-screen productions. Assistant Chief O.J. Billings of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department says: "The Theft Bureau [of the Sheriff's Department] thinks the men got the idea of wearing false hair pieces from a *Dragnet* episode that was on TV about two weeks ago." An FBI spokesman observes that the idea of using a smoke bomb might have come from *The Thomas Crown Affair*, a motion picture that is playing in theaters at that time. (*The Commercial Appeal*, July 31 and August 1, 1969)
- 8/1969 Alarms are installed at the main office and all branches of Barretville Bank & Trust Co. President Paul Barret notes: "This robbery [on July 30, 1969 at the Shelby Center Branch] had nothing to do with the decision. We were planning it because of

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the Banking Protection Act, which went into effect this month." (*The Commercial Appeal*, August 1, 1969)

- 12/31/1970 Barretville Bank's deposits are \$38,211,112.22. Total capital accounts are \$3,401,375.45, comprised of capital notes of \$126,666.64, capital reserves of \$348,333.36, capital stock of \$525,000.00, surplus of \$1,000,000.00, and undivided profits of \$1,401,375.45. Assets total \$42,941,625.62. (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1970)
- 12/31/1972 Deposits at Barretville Bank & Trust Co. are \$49,126,047.67. Total capital accounts are \$3,944,125.63, made up of \$31,666.66 in capital notes, \$443,333.34 in capital reserves, \$525,000.00 in capital stock, \$1,000,000.00 in surplus, and \$1,944,125.63 in undivided profits. Total assets are \$54,833,569.59. (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1972)
- 12/31/1974 Barretville Bank's deposits are \$60,416,856.97. Total capital accounts are \$5,291,665.38, resulting from \$1,000,000.00 in capital stock, \$1,000,000.00 in surplus, and \$3,291,665.38 in undivided profits. Total assets are \$67,845,003.68. (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1974) The resources of Barretville Bank's affiliates, namely Somerville Bank & Trust Co. and Rossville Savings Bank, exceed \$25,000,000.00 (*id.*) but are not included in the Barretville Bank figures in this Consolidated Statement of Condition or in any other Consolidated Statement cited herein until the formation of Barret Bankcorp, Inc. in 1998.
- 2/13/1975 A man wearing a ski mask and armed with a .22 caliber pistol enters the main office of Barretville Bank at 1:45 p.m. and demands money but leaves empty-handed after Paul Barret overhears the demand and tells the would-be robber that this is just a country bank and there is no money there. Tellers and customers who are cashing checks and making/accepting deposits at teller's windows a few feet in front of the bank's vault are left scratching their heads and chuckling over the erstwhile Jesse James' gullibility. (*Memphis Press-Scimitar*, February 14, 1975)
- 12/31/1975 Deposits at Barretville Bank increased by almost \$4,000,000.00 over the past 12 months, to \$64,246,828.29. Total capital accounts are \$6,081,787.76, comprised of \$1,000,000.00 in capital stock, \$1,000,000.00 in surplus, and \$4,081,787.72 in undivided profits. Total assets are \$72,563,868.94. (Condensed Statement, December 31, 1975)
- 5/4/1976 Paul Barret, who was co-founder of Barretville Bank & Trust Co. and served as its president for 35 years, dies. His son, Paul Barret, Jr., succeeds him.
- 6/30/1976 Deposits of Barretville Bank are \$64,311,877.21. Capital stock is \$1,000,000.00; surplus, \$1,000,000.00; and undivided profits are \$4,355,047.17; thus, capital

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accounts total \$6,355,047.17. Total assets are \$73,003,511.95. The assets of affiliates exceed \$25,000,000.00. (Condensed Statement, June 30, 1976)

All references herein to "Bulletins" are to periodic bulletins of the Tennessee Department of Banking published at Nashville. References herein to "Condensed Statements" are to Condensed Statements of Condition issued semi-annually by Barretville Bank & Trust Co. and, commencing in 1999, by Barret Bancorp, Inc., copies of which are in the possession of the author.

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The following is Tennessee State Joint Resolution Number 40, adopted April 26, 1999 and signed by Governor Don Sundquist, which named Tennessee Highway 385, a controlled-access road from Millington to Collierville, in honor of Paul Barret:

WHEREAS, From time to time this General Assembly has acknowledged the need to name certain public bylaws in honor of those outstanding persons whose incomparable achievements greatly benefited their communities and fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, The late Mr. Paul Weisiger Barret was one such person, whose life of principle and commitment will be long remembered by the good people of Shelby County he so capably served through the years; and

* * * *

WHEREAS, a merchant, banker, planter, businessman, political and civic leader, Mr. Barret was closely connected with the economic progress and government of Shelby County for all of his life; he remained active in business and politics until his death in 1976; and

WHEREAS, A great humanitarian and friend to all, Paul Barret began his remarkable public service career as Chairman of the Shelby County Board of Education in 1926 and remained in that important position until his election in 1930 as Circuit Court Clerk serving in the interim in the Tennessee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, He served with distinction as Circuit Court Clerk for twelve years until his election to the Shelby County Court in 1942; and

WHEREAS, As an acknowledged leader and longtime senior member of the court, Mr. Barret was widely respected for his sage advice and reasoned opinion; and

WHEREAS, Paul Barret's distinguished career of community leadership was marked by forty years of uninterrupted service in public office; during that span and until his retirement from office as a prominent member of the Shelby County Court in 1966, he never lost an election; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Barret evinced his devout religious faith as a lifelong member of the First Presbyterian Church of Rosemark, where he served for many years as an elder; and

WHEREAS, He contributed his time and remarkable talents as a Master Mason and a Shriner, a member of the American Legion, the Forty and Eight Club, the Rivermont Club, the Tennessee Club, and was a leader in the Tennessee Bankers Association; and

WHEREAS, Seldom do persons of Paul Barret's character, integrity and brilliance shine so brightly upon us, and it is most appropriate that a lasting tribute be erected to the memory of this remarkable man; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That in honor of this great humanitarian, the portion of State Route 385 in Shelby County from the Millington city limits southerly to the Collierville city limits, is hereby designated as the "Paul W. Barret Memorial Parkway."

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ENDNOTES:

- ⁱ *The (Memphis) Commercial Appeal*, "Barret Store – From 1 Room to Big Business in 100 Years," April 15, 1956.
- ⁱⁱ *Tennessee Banker* magazine, February 1937, p. 30.
- ⁱⁱⁱ John M. Blum, *et al.*, *The National Experience*, 2nd ed. (New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., 1968), pp. 663-64.
- ^{iv} Faye Ellis Osteen, *Millington: The First Hundred Years* (Southaven, Mississippi: The King's Press, 2002), p. 78; *Tennessee Banker*, July 1965, p. 13; Rachel Herring Kennon Burrow, *Arlington: A Short Historical Writing of the Town* (Memphis: E.H. Clarke & Brother, 1962), p. 15.
- ^v *Tennessee Banker*, February 1930, p. 46; February 1934, p. 28; and February 1937, p. 30.
- ^{vi} *Tennessee Banker*, January 1954, p. 12.
- ^{vii} *Id.*
- ^{viii} *The Commercial Appeal*, January 14, 1943.
- ^{ix} *Tennessee Banker*, November 1944, p. 32.
- ^x *Tennessee Banker*, January 1951, p. 44.
- ^{xi} *Tennessee Banker*, March 1953, p. 24.
- ^{xii} Barretville Bank Condensed Statement of Condition, June 30, 1976.
- ^{xiii} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 14.
- ^{xiv} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 53.
- ^{xv} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 54.
- ^{xvi} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 57.
- ^{xvii} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 62.
- ^{xviii} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 67.
- ^{xix} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 75.
- ^{xx} Tennessee Department of Banking Bulletin 80.
- ^{xxi} Tennessee Secretary of State, Domestic Corporations Annual Reports, Record Group 242, Book P-55, pages 1721-1722.
- ^{xxii} Condensed Statement of Condition as of June 30, 1976, Barretville Bank & Trust Co.
- ^{xxiii} *Tennessee Banker*, February 1934, p. 28.
- ^{xxiv} *Tennessee Banker*, February 1937, p. 30.
- ^{xxv} *The Commercial Appeal*, January 14, 1943.
- ^{xxvi} *Id.*
- ^{xxvii} *Tennessee Banker*, February 1943, pp. 16-17.
- ^{xxviii} *Tennessee Banker*, February 1947, p. 34.
- ^{xxix} *Tennessee Banker*, August 1952, p. 28.
- ^{xxx} *Tennessee Banker*, January 1960, p. 33.
- ^{xxxi} Condensed Statement of Condition as of December 31, 1970, Barretville Bank & Trust Co.
- ^{xxxii} Condensed Statement of Condition as of June 30, 1976, Barretville Bank & Trust Co.
- ^{xxxiii} David D. Lee, *Tennessee in Turmoil: Politics in the Volunteer State, 1920-1932* (Memphis: Memphis State University Press, 1979), pp. 148-149.
- ^{xxxiv} *Time* magazine, May 27, 1946, p. 22.
- ^{xxxv} Allen Hampton Kitchens, "Political Upheaval in Tennessee, Boss Crump and the Senatorial Campaign of 1948," M.A. thesis, George Washington University, 1962, p. 16.

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xxxvi *Id.*

xxxvii "Carey Estes Kefauver" by Theodore Brown, Jr., in Carroll Van West, ed., *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History & Culture* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998), p. 498.

xxxviii "Edward Hull Crump" by David Tucker, in Carroll Van West, ed., *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998), pp. 220-221.

xxxix Faye Ellis Osteen, *Millington, The First Hundred Years* (Southaven, Mississippi: The King's Press, 2002), p. 78.

xl G. Wayne Dowdy, *Mayor Crump Don't Like It: Machine Politics in Memphis* (Jackson, Mississippi: University Press of Mississippi, 2006), p. 112.

xli Albert C. Rickey, "City-County Consolidation: The Inside Story," a paper presented to The Egyptians and reprinted in Ellen Davies Rodgers, *Turns Again Home: Life on an Old Tennessee Plantation Trespassed by Progress* (Brunswick, Tennessee: The Plantation Press, 1992), p. 331.

xlii *The Commercial Appeal*, November 20, 1966.

xliii *The Commercial Appeal*, January 15, 1964.

xliv Shelby County Quarterly Court Minute Book 75, page 55.

xlvi *The Commercial Appeal*, July 15, 1997, p. A-1.